

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A process for oligomerizing isobutene, comprising:

oligomerizing isobutene in the presence of n-butene over a solid, acidic ion exchanger having acidic protons; wherein at least one acidic proton of said ion exchanger has been exchanged for a metal ion.

Claim 2 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein from 0.1 to 30% of said acidic protons of the ion exchanger have been exchanged for metal ions.

Claim 3 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein an isobutenic hydrocarbon mixture comprising isobutene, 1-butene, 2-butene and butanes is used for said oligomerizing.

Claim 4 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein the metal ions are ions selected from the group consisting of alkali metals, alkaline earth metals, rare earth metals and mixtures thereof.

Claim 5 (Original): The process according to claim 3, wherein said isobutenic hydrocarbon mixture is at least partially in the liquid phase during said oligomerizing.

Claim 6 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein said oligomerizing is carried out at a temperature of from 5 to 160°C.

Claim 7 (Original): The process according to claim 3, wherein less than 5 mol% of said 1-butene is isomerized to 2-butene.

Claim 8 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein an effluent of said oligomerizing is fractionated into C<sub>8</sub>-olefins and C<sub>4</sub>-olefins.

Claim 9 (Original): The process according to claim 8, wherein isobutene is present in said C<sub>4</sub>-olefinic fraction; and

wherein said isobutene is etherified with an alcohol in at least one further reaction stage.

Claim 10 (Original): The process according to claim 8, wherein the C<sub>8</sub>-olefinic fraction is hydrogenated to give saturated hydrocarbons.

Claim 11 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein said ion exchanger is a solid sulfonated ion exchange resins in which from 0.1 to 60% of the acidic protons of the sulfonic acid groups have been exchanged for metal ions.

Claim 12 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein an ion exchange capacity of said ion exchange resin is between 1 and 2 mol.

Claim 13 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein a pore volume of said ion exchange resin is from 30 to 60 ml/g.

Claim 14 (Original): The process according to claim 1, wherein a particle size of said ion exchange resin is between 500  $\mu\text{m}$  and 1500  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claim 15 (Original): A process for preparing 1-butene from C<sub>4</sub>-hydrocarbon comprising:

converting a C<sub>4</sub>-hydrocarbon mixture over an acidic, solid ion exchanger having acidic protons;

wherein at least one acidic protons of said ion exchanger has been exchanged for a metal ion, thereby obtaining a reaction product; and

wherein the 1-butene is removed from the reaction product by distillation.

Claim 16 (Original): The process of claim 15, wherein from 0.1 to 30% of said acidic protons of the ion exchanger have been exchanged for metal ions.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The process of claim 16, wherein a mixture comprising at least one component selected from the group consisting of isobutene, 1-butene, 2-butene, butanes is used for said oligomerizing.